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Sent: 30 November 2022 23:49
To: Planning
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With the inexorable global warming, due to increasing atmospheric CO₂, it is extraordinary to see people putting the cosmetics of their buildings before carbon-capturing plants in their gardens. There is scarcely a house in this quarter that doesn't show signs of historic subsidence/foundation movement. Yet they're all still standing. As a visiting builder said, "Buildings move." "Felling to ground level" seems to demand more than the 'likely's and 'probably's of the report. But even if these were turned into certainties, the proposed remedies are questionable: total felling could lead to heave (which I think happened here at 41 Falkland Road when an old lime tree was removed in the 80s) and pruning to 50% volume annually leads to strong re-growth and uptake of ground water -more than the undisturbed tree. (Of course, this is good for carbon capture, but bad for the foundations!)

The felling of a tree is a tragedy, but, if it is inevitable, and if it is desired to replace it with something, might I suggest something like forsythia or dogwood, which will grow and capture carbon, will take pruning graciously, and will not get out of hand.